September 11, 2001, price of brent crude oil first increased from the level of US$ 28.42 per barrel on 11th September to US$ 29.15 per barrel on 14th September. Thereafter, the price of brent crude oil decreased touching a minimum of US$ 16.54 per barrel on 15th November, 2001. The price of brent crude on 23.11.2001 was US$ 19.43 per barrel.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to reduce the price of controlled petroleum products. The decrease in the crude oil prices will have positive impact on the oil pool account.

LPG as auto fuel

1034. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to allow LPG as auto fuel;

(b) if so, by when such a Bill amending the Motor Vehicles Act would be placed before Parliament for its consideration;

(c) whether any consultation with the All India LPG Industries Association has been made in this regard; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of the Association to this step?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (d) The use of LPG as auto fuel has been legislated by the Parliament through the Motor Vehicles (Amendment), Act, 2000 *vide* Gazette Notification dated 14.8.2000. Further, Emission and Safety norms for LPG driven vehicles have been issued by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways *vide* Notification GSR No. 284(E), dated 24.4.2001.

Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Use in Motor Vehicles) Order, 2001 has also been issued by Ministry of

Petroleum and Natural gas *vide* Notification GSR No. 569 (E), dated 1.8.2001 permitting the use of LPG as auto fuel.

Availability of CNG in Delhi

†1035. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Court has held the Ministry guilty of the short availability of CNG in adequate quantity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have expressed its inability to make available CNG in adequate quantity;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Court has held the Ministry guilty of the short availability of CNG in adequate quantity; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) In its order dated 17th August, 2001 the Hon'ble Supreme Court observed as follow:

> "there appears to be mishandling of CNG supply issue... The Union of India as well as IGL should have taken adequate steps to see that the shortcoming at the time of filling of CNG are remedied."

(c) Yes Sir, the Government has highlighted constraints in adequate supply of CNG arising from declining production from existing domestic fields and commencement of import of liquefied natural gas only from December, 2003.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Government have already moved the Hon'ble Supreme Court to allow running of EURO II complaint vehicles on diesel with 0.05% max. sulphur content through 4 applications filed between March to October, 2001.

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†. Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.